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Communications solicited on all Medical and Scientific subjects, and also Reports of Cases occurring in practice. Advertisements inserted on the most liberal terms. All Letters and Communications to be addressed to the "Editor Canada Lancet," Toronto.

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MEDICAL BILL.

The profession in England are much exercised at present in discussing the above-mentioned Bill, which has passed the House of Lords without a division, but has its fate yet to be determined in the House of Commons. Before making a few remarks on the subject of Medical Corporations, we will lay before our readers an extract from the *London Lancet* of the 15th June, which will place them *au courant* of its general features :

"Let there be no mistake about one point—it is now a serious measure. There is no longer the weakly permissive character about it which it had when it first saw the light. It is the gravest bit of legislation in medical matters which has yet been attempted. It represents new powers in medical matters: it abolishes many old ones. It deals very seriously with the great traditional functions of the corporations—that of licensing men to practice; it sweeps it away. Universities and corporations will be untouched with regard to the power of granting degrees or diplomas, but the virtue of their degrees or diplomas to procure admission to the Register, and the corresponding right to practice will be gone. True, Universities and Corporations will still be regarded as the medical authorities on whom will be devolved in the first instance the duty of framing schemes for appointing persons to act as a board for examinations to be passed, in order to get the qualifying certificate which alone, as far as British subjects are concerned, is to entitle to registration. But although they are invited thus to frame schemes, the schemes will be framed without their consent if they fail to act, and from the present form of the bill it does not appear to be certain that the persons passing the conjoint Board will be brought into any essential relation or subjection to the existing corporations and other medical authorities. The Bill will make a grand difference to the several medical authorities, and over all of them, and over the Medical Council, will preside more decidedly than hitherto, the Privy Council, to which schemes have

to be referred and by which they have to be approved: and which has the power, according to clause 7, of ordering the Medical Council to recognize Foreign and Colonial diplomas, which after due consideration, it has refused to recognize."

We would in limine state that the fears entertained by our brethren in England, that the surrender by the Universities and various licensing bodies, of the right to practice, accompanying the degree, or license, would, in a large number of instances, lead to the students being satisfied with the license of the Medical Council, find no endorsement in the results of a similar surrender by Universities and Colleges in Ontario some ten years ago. Cases of students being satisfied with the legal right to practice conferred by the license of the Medical Council, and failing to take the degree of M. B. at one of our Universities are so rare, as to be quite the exception to the rule. On the contrary a large number are to be found who are not satisfied with the Baccalauréat of one University, but become graduates of both Trinity and Toronto University, many afterwards repairing to Great Britain, from whence they return with an affix of letters of the alphabet to their name that is certainly amusing, if not imposing. That a thorough change in the profession in England will take place is pretty generally admitted. The most influential of the medical journals are openly and manifestly supporting the cause of justice, and there is no question that sooner or later the sought for change will pass the House of Commons. The question principally agitating the members of the profession is, what is to be done with the Universities and Corporations? The editor of the *Medical Press and Circular* for the 3rd of July, says :

"Upon the two chief aspects of the subject there is among the profession and the public, an overwhelming concurrence of opinion. Every one, save those who profit by the diploma trade, feels that reform is urgently needed, and that conjoint examination is the only method of reform which is practicable under existing circumstances. Every one, save a very few ultra radicals, is of opinion that the licensing corporations are deserving of being protected and preserved, and that Lord Repon's clause must be abrogated or modified, so as to ensure that licensed practitioners shall also be diploma holders."

We grant that an abrogation of the privileges of the various corporations of Great Britain which have done so much in the cause of Medical Sci-